



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## SCANDINAVIAN PUBLICATIONS, RECENT AND FORTHCOMING

J. A. Holvik's *Beginners' Book in Norse*, 1915, is a revised edition of the edition of 1910 (though the title page does not indicate this). The new edition is a very distinct improvement over the first, and I would recommend it to schools and colleges as, in its new form, a thoroughly satisfactory book to use. In content there is the new feature of the inclusion of five lessons (XXXI-XXXV) of illustrated text dealing with Norway. There are here 35 pictures from all parts of Norway, most of them very good, which may very well, as the author intends them, be used as material for conversation and composition. While the increase of a "beginners' " book beyond the 284 pp. of the first edition to 350 of this edition might seem a doubtful proceeding, the kind of material that is here added is decidedly welcome. In other ways, too, the book has been changed; the treatment of the articles and adjectives is new and the "Pronunciation" has been rewritten in part, though it still contains things I would have eliminated (see my review of edition of 1910 in *Modern Language Notes*, XXIX, 49-52, which it appears the author has not noted.) A vocabulary is always a most difficult thing to prepare, and the present work, like its predecessors, is faulty here. Many words occurring in the text for the illustrations in lessons XXXI-XXXV are not glossed at all, as *skjærgaard*, *skogklædt*, *vandrik*, *søndenfjeldsk*, etc. Without a complete glossary the purpose of the otherwise interesting and excellent text is in part defeated. Also there are omissions and incomplete definitions in the case of words occurring in the text of *En glad gut*. I have gone over only the first chapter, five pages of text. A few of the things I have noted here are: annotations are needed for *tænde lys paa* p. 154; and p. 155, l. 23; *gik i stykker*, p. 155; *paa skakke*, 156; p. *bli glad mere*, p. 159; *være glad i*, p. 160, and *ragget*, p. 156, defined "goat's whiskers," should be "wool, coarse hair." *Likesom* is only defined "as if," but p. 159, *likesom i katekismen*, it means "like" (like in the catechism). Also the *den* in *Nei, bukken er min, den* is sure to trouble the beginner who does not already have some speaking knowledge of Norwegian; and surely it is hoped that many such will use the book! The book is printed on excellent paper and the type is everywhere new and clear; also it is attractively bound. The publishers are the Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis.

*Modern Icelandic Plays. Eyvind of the Hills. The Hraun Farm.* By Jóhann Sigurjónsson. The translation of few Scandinavian plays could be more welcome at the present time than the above two by the great Icelandic dramatist. The American-Scandinavian Foundation and the translator Henninge Krohn Schanche are both to be congratulated upon this contribution to English translations. The volume, which appears as Vol. VI of Scandinavian Classics (October, 1916, pp. XII+134), is of course intended especially for the general reader; but the attention of teachers may be called to the fact that these works can also be used to good advantage in college classes, e. g., in lecture courses on Scandinavian literature. Thus for courses in Scandinavian

drama we have the Foundation translations of Holberg (1914) and Strindberg's *Master Olov*, and now these two modern Icelandic plays, of which the student may therefore get first-hand knowledge. Then there are the Scribner series of Björnson and Strindberg plays, and of course Archer's Ibsen. Now we need a volume of Oehlenschlaeger, one of Runeberg and one or two of recent Norwegian dramatists. The present rendering seems to have been done with care and good taste as regards the English dress. I am not able at the present time to pass upon it as a translation for I do not own the Danish version from which the translation has been made. We hope to secure a review at a later time. There is a brief Introduction by Mr. H. G. Leach. The volume is attractively bound in the usual red of the "Classics" and excellently printed.

The second volume of translations published by the Foundation for 1916 is one of *The Prose Edda* by Snorri Sturluson, translated from the Icelandic with an Introduction by Arthur Gilchrist Brodeur, it is a volume of 266 pages and contains all of the *Gylfaginning* and the *Skáldskaparmál*. It is a task of the greatest difficulty that the translator has undertaken here. To render into English the poetry of the *Skáldskaparmál* is something that most would hesitate about; yet a brief examination of the book seems to show that it is here that Dr. Brodeur has done his best work. Having just received the volume, I am not able now to offer a review, but hope to do so in the next issue of these Publications. The prose has, in my view, been translated with too close adherence to the words of the original. There is a good introduction, which also contains an account of earlier renderings.

An annotated edition, in attractive form, of Björnson's *En glad gut* by J. A. Holvik has just been issued by the Augsburg Publishing House. See review by Prof. Nils Flaten elsewhere pp. 282-284.

Less satisfactory than the above edition is that of Ibsen's *Kongsemnerne* published by the same firm, with J. H. Holvik and P. J. Eikeland as editors. The preface is in English and there is a good vocabulary. But the Introduction and notes are in Norwegian, a mixed method that is not wholly satisfactory. There seems to be no clear reason why the text should have been sent out in this way. The Introduction treats of the historical background of the drama (20 pages) and discusses in ten pages dramatic technic. The intelligent reading of this on the part of the student presupposes such a knowledge of Norwegian as to make the vocabulary on the drama practically superfluous. Hence why was not the vocabulary omitted if the book were intended for so advanced students and the edition made all in Norwegian? But if not so intended, the introduction would better have been written in English, as also the notes. The book is well printed on good paper.

*Historisk tidskrift för Skåneland* utgiven av Lauritz Weibull. Band 5-6, 1914-1915. This journal should be of special interest to those of our Swedish members who have come from Skåne or are of *Skåning* descent. The contents have dealt largely with medieval and early modern history of the province and with the architecture of old churches, and with early village history, seals, weapons, etc. (Here also: "Romanska målningar i Skånes kyrkor" by Otto Rydbeck, I, pp. 113-149). Of other contents we shall mention especially

Axel Kock's: "De senaste årens undersökningar af skånska bygdemål," in II, i-22; Ebbe Tuneld's: "Skånska runstensstudier" (including interpretation of the newly discovered runestones of Hästad and Skärby, as well as of lost Skanian runestones) III, 239-294; L. Weibull's "Rollo och Gånge-Rolf. En sägenhistorisk undersökning," IV, pp. 205-221; while the whole of Vol. VI is given over to a study of Saxo by Curt Weibull entitled: "Saxo. Kritiska undersökningar; Danmarks historia från Sven Estridsens död till Knut," VI, p. 296. The chief contribution in Vol. V is L. Weibull's "Den skånska kyrkans äldsta historia," pp. 109-155, which in this number brings the history of the church down to 1162, to be continued in a subsequent number. The *Tidskrift* is published at Lund.

*Islandica*, Volume VIII, Ithaca, 1915, pp. XIX+54. Vol. IX, 1916, pp. XII+72. The former of these two issues of the *Islandica* series deals with *An Icelandic Satire Written at the Beginning of the Eighteenth Century* by Þorleifur Halldórsson; the edition prepared by Dr. Halldór Hermannsson offers first an Introduction which gives an account of the revival of literature in Iceland in the middle of the sixteenth century, and then a sketch of Halldórsson's life and a discussion of the place of his *Lof Lyginnar* in the literature of Fools (from Brant's *Narrenschiff*). Vol. IX above treats of *Icelandic Books of the Sixteenth Century*. As the art of printing reached Iceland about 1531, and as the first printer who had established himself at Hólar printed there in 1554 the so-called *Breviarium Nidrosiense* the only Icelandic book known to have been printed before the Reformation, the period covered by their works 1534-1600. The Introduction gives an account of printers and printeries, the first printer being Jóns Matthíasson, a Swede(!). The Bibliography that follows offers facsimiles of *Hid nya Testament* of 1540 and of several other books as well as of some of the finer initials.

Didrik Arup Seip: *En liten norsk Sproghistorie*. Andet oplag, Kristiania (H. Aschehoug & Co.), 1916, pp. 44. This little work is intended to be used along with instruction in the history of the Norwegian language in the "gymnasium." As the school regulations include also a survey of the present language condition, the author, in addition to the strictly historical part, offers a brief account (pp. 37-39) of the present dialect groups, supplemented by a map, after which the landsmaal and the spoken language of the cities are briefly treated; there is finally a list of the chief characteristics of Norwegian riksmaal (pp. 42-44). The work may be recommended to the general reader who wishes to have in the briefest possible form some main facts in the development of Norwegian. Naturally nothing more than that can be given in such brief space.

*Leaders in Norway and Other Essays* by Agnes Mathilde Wergeland. Edited and arranged by Katherine Merrill. The Free Church Book Concern, Minneapolis, 1916, pp. 193. This work is a memorial volume to the writer, being gotten in shape for publication after the writer's death by Katherine Merrill, who has also edited the book. The main part of the book is the two chapters on Henrik Wergeland, pp. 38-63 and Camilla Collett, pp. 64-101, of whose lives and work she presents a sympathetic and in every way excellent account.

These chapters are preceded by one on "The Primitive Norseman," one on "The Awakening of Norway," and one on "Westland and Eastland," into the second of which there breathes a good deal of the Wergelandian spirit of the signer of the national constitution, and of his son the poet. Perhaps the finest chapter in the whole book, however, is the third, an eloquent characterization of West and East Norwegian nature. There are also chapters on "Progress of the Woman Movement in Norway," "Ibsen and the Norwegians," "Second Sight in Norwegian Literature," "Grieg as a National Composer, and "The Cathedral at Trondhjem." There is a biographical sketch of the author by the editor. It is hoped that this deserving book may find many readers.

*Bidrag till kännedom om Göteborgs och Bohusläns fornminnen*, IX, 1. 1914, Pp. 111. The present issue of the journal of the Bohuslän branch of the Swedish Antiquarian Society is given over entirely to a somewhat detailed account of the ruins of Dyngge castle, since 1750 called Gallmarsberg, which goes back to the second half of the XIIIth century. It would seem that Bohuslän has a larger number of old fortresses and castles than any other province in Sweden; thus of the primitive *bygdeborgar* about fifty are known. Then there are later types; the one at Dyngge is a usual fortified castle of the later period. Among the many interesting objects in the find were two pearls of amber, a massive lance point, a horn borer, stone vases, various fragments of ornamented pattern besides, of course, objects of iron. There was a piece of painted tapestry (reproduced, p. 27) with pictures of men and women, animals, plants, "and also of hell, where figures with horns and with tails at the armpits and pokers in their hands are busily engaged roasting in kettles the poor sinners" (p. 27, translated here). There is an historical introduction and the usual account of the work of excavation.

*Västmanlands fornminnesförenings årsskrift*, VIII, a volume of pages 10+23+43, 1915, has just appeared. The last volume appeared in 1912; the amount of material issued by this branch of the Swedish Antiquarian Society is, therefore, small, but it has uniformly been of excellent quality. In the present volume there is issued a call to the people of Västmanland to "preserve piously" the old churches, old dwellings and old houses of various kinds, have pictures taken of them and descriptions sent in to the museum of Västerås. The most significant contribution in this number is Esket-Olsson's "Västmanland under sten-och bronsåldern" with 34 figures of objects in the museum, among them a round-axe and two thin-necked axes of flint and a grind-stone, all from the earlier part of the latter half of the younger stone age. There are also thick-necked axes and variously shaped axes with shaft-holes, among the latter an unusually beautiful boat-axe from Berga in Björksta parish. Among the bronze finds may be especially noted the richly ornamented Fellingsbro axe with shaft-hole and of a shape like the stone axes. Claes Uggla reprints with an introduction Rasmus Kloths "Rekenslagsbok, Anno 1539," of which there is a facsimile page.

*Alfræði islenzk. Islandsk encyklopædisk litteratur. II Rimtöl.* Udgivet for "Samfund til Udgivelse af gammel nordisk Litteratur" ved N. Beckman og Kr. Kålund. 2 hæfte. Copenhagen, 1915, Pp. 161-304. Indledning I—CLX.

With this number (which forms part of vol. 41 of the Samfund's publications) the text of the Rímtöl is completed with a group of "Efterslæt" to the various manuscripts, the Register of words and names and the main part of the introduction. The register of words includes all words that may be regarded as belonging to technical terminology in the subjects treated and also such other words as have been formerly misunderstood: passages illustrative of the use of words are cited in the register. The introduction offers a valuable account of Icelandic and general medieval computistic literature and the Icelandic calendar texts with an account of earlier editions. Interesting is the "Exkurs I" on the Scandinavian element in the Finnish calendar and astronomical lore.

An investigation entitled "An Essay Toward a History of Shakespeare in Norway" by Dr. M. B. Ruud will be published by this Society in the near future, possibly in the spring of 1917. The work was done during two years of study in Scandinavia. A somewhat similar study dealing with "Shakespeare in Denmark," made during a stay in Copenhagen, is nearing completion. Of this work fuller announcement will be made later.

An annotated edition of Ibsen's *Et Dukkehjem* for school and college by G. T. Flom is in preparation, and planned to be published in time so as to be available for use in September, 1917. It will have an introduction and vocabulary, and will be printed in the new orthography.

A new edition of Flom's *Synnøve Solbakken* by Bj. Björnson is also in preparation by the editor. It will differ from the earlier edition in that it will be in the new spelling and will contain a series of exercises based on the text. It is hoped that this volume can be out by September, 1917.

Professor H. Logeman of Ghent, Belgium, now residing in den Haag has for some years been engaged in studies in Ibsen's text. Prof. Logeman writes me that the results of these studies will now be published by the firm of Martinus Nijhoff of The Hague under the title *A Commentary on Henrik Ibsen's 'Peer Gynt,' Critical and Explanatory*. The work will also include Prof. Logeman's "Textual Criticism" which was ready for the press when the war broke out. See also the author's "Tilbake til Ibsen," *Edda*, 1914.

THE AMERICAN FACSIMILE EDITION OF KONUNGS SKUGGSJÁ. THE ARNAMAGNEAN MANUSCRIPT 243 B, a, FOLIO, IN PHOTOTYPIC REPRODUCTION WITH DIPLOMATIC TEXT. EDITED FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS BY GEORGE T. FLOM. *Large Folio size, bound in half leather, Pp. Introduction LXVII; Text 136; Notes, etc., 26; photographic pages of MS. 136 pages.* It is a great pleasure to me to be able to announce that the facsimile of *Kongespeilet*, announced four years ago, has now appeared. For the long delay I must plead the difficulties of getting such a work out under war conditions,—the censoring of mail, the loss of proof somewhere between here and Copenhagen, etc., led to delays for which neither printer nor editor were to blame. But it is now out—was issued in July, 1916—and it is offered to the scholarly world in the hope that it will be found as useful as the editor has earnestly desired it to be.

I quote from the *Foreword*: "With the publication of this edition, a long-cherished hope to offer scholars a facsimile of the main MS. of the *Konungs*

*Skuggsjá* (King's Mirror) is realized. The manuscript before us is interesting in many ways. For purity of language and dignity of style it is a document of no mean order. On the side of paleography it is in some respects no less interesting. To the historian it stands unique among the compositions of the time to which it belongs. The cultural significance of its contents, finally, gives it a foremost place among the monuments preserved from the classical age of Old Norse literature and, indeed, in mediaeval literature in general." The manuscript is written in a large regular hand, frequently employs highly ornamental initials and is in every way a beautiful example of hand-writing in Old Norwegian times. The original is a part of the manuscript collection of Arne Magnusson. It is a parchment codex of 136 pages, from about 1275-1285. The present edition offers an exact reproduction of this MS. The diplomatic text is similar in plan to that of the Codex Regius of the Elder Edda. The transcription of the text has been done entirely on the basis of the complete photographic copy of the MS. in the Scandinavian collection of the University of Illinois photographed at the Kongelige Biblioteks Ateliér at Copenhagen, where also the gelatin plates for this edition were made. The system usually followed in Scandinavian editions of diplomatic texts has been adhered to. But to a certain extent I have gone farther than these; I have aimed to reproduce also other paleographic features, such as minuscules enlarged for capitals where these occur in the text, the uncial, rare shapes of ð, r, W, s, y, etc., by which the diplomatic text is brought nearer to the MS. itself. The Introduction deals somewhat in detail with the paleography of the manuscript, its early history, dialect and date of writing. The work is printed on extra heavy high-grade paper; the printing has been done by the well-known house, Bianco Lunos Bogtrykkeri, Copenhagen, Denmark, who, noted for their excellent work, have in this case put out a volume of the very highest quality artistically and scientifically.

The edition has been limited to 150 copies. Of these some thirty are still available for the American trade and about forty for Europe. Librarians in particular should take notice. Those who desire to secure a copy of this Facsimile should order at once. Write to "Speculum Regale, Business Manager, Room 156, Administration Bldg., University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois," though orders addressed to the Editor will be gladly forwarded.

GEORGE T. FLOM,  
209 Lincoln Hall, Urbana.